Scheduled Desert Area in the Western Region of the country for timely detection and control of locusts, maintaining readiness in term of control measures including pesticides and equipment, and exchange of information with neighbouring countries and FAO.

Forest dwellers

*192. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of forest dwellers having no order of settlement in the country State-wise;

(b) how many of them belong to Scheduled Tribes;

(c) whether Government are going to relax the rules in order to facilitate these families for the use of forest produces under some control; and

(d) the details of the programme of Government?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) The details in respect of number of forest dwellers including Scheduled Tribes are maintained by the respective State/Union Territory Government.

(c) and (d) The Government of India has requested the State/Union Territory Government to assign ownership of minor forest produce to forest dependent communities including tribals. Moreover, the Scheduled Tribes (Recognition of Forest Rights) Bill, 2005 has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 13.12.2005. The Bill *inter-alia* provides for recognition and vesting of forest rights in the forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes, who have been residing in such forests for generations and includes right to collect, utilize or transfer minor forest produce in such manner as may be prescribed.

Retrieval of Railway land from encroachers

*193. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3013 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12th May, 2006 and state:

(a) the number of cases with the area of land in each case with location

thereof which the Railways were able to retrieve from encroachers during the last three years ending 31st March, 2006; and

(b) the number of cases with location for which the railway administration has initiated action under Public Premises (Evication of Unauthorized Occupants)Act, 1971 and the Railways Act, 1989?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) and (b) Zonal Railway-wise details are as under:

Railway	Number of encroachments removed during last three years ending 31.03.2006	Encroached area (Hectare) retrieved during last three years ending 31.03.2006	Number of cases where action initiated under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971 (PPF)ason 31.03.2006 and is pending
Central	656	4.13	2322
Eastern	14899	23.29	2745
East Central	5056	19.95	46
East Coast	388	0.86	1778
Northern	2826	12.31	25041
North Central	760	7.75	1619
North Eastern	1187	12.32	1658
Northeast Frontier	3065	51.52	8565
North Western	207	1.52	100
Southern	2316	15.95	8439
South Central	2520	7.12	3666
South Eastern	4767	22.22	5471
Southeast Central	1313	840	3348
South Western	910	4.54	1020
Western	5914	15.39	2691
West Central	578	11.90	375
TOTAL:	47362	219.17	68884

Case-wise details along with location for the number of encroachments removed and area reduced in the past three years, as also the number of cases for which action has been initiated under PPE Act, 1971, are far too many, spread over 4.23 lakh hectares of Railway land. The data on the same are voluminous and are maintained in encroachment registers kept at divisional/subdivisional level on Zonal railways. Soft encroachments are normally removed under the Railways Act, 1989. Removal/occurrence/ re-removal of such trespassers is a continuous process.

Prescribing expensive medicines

*194. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that most of the doctors and medical practitioners prescribe highly expensive medicines which are sometimes beyond the reach of common men;

(b) if so, the remedial measures Government propose to take to check such exploitation of patients and referring them to particular labs, clinics/ hospitals for tests or hospitalization etc.; and

(c) whether any agency already exists in order to monitor and regulate such unfair means adopted by the medical practitioners and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) to (c) As per the provisions contained in the Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002, notified to regulate the conduct of doctors, every physician should, as far as possible, prescribe drugs with generic names and he/she shall ensure that there is a rational prescription and use of drugs. These Regulations further provide that physician shall not give, solicit, or receive nor shall he offer to give, solicit or receive, any gift, gratuity, commission or bonus in cosideration of or return for the referring, recommending or procuring of any patient for medical, surgical or other treatment. A physician shall not directly or indirectly, participate in or be a party to act of division, transference, assignment, subordination, rebating, splitting or refunding any fee for medical, surgical or other treatment. This shall apply with equal force to the referring, recommending or procuring by a physician or